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To: Robert McWatters
Subject: Tufts Dining Workers Announce They Have Formed a Union!
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Breaking: Tufts Dining Hall Workers Announce Their Union!

From Our Friends at UNITE HERE Local 26:

Surrounded by hundreds of students, Tufts dining hall workers announced they have formed a union. Together, they called on President Anthony Monaco to recognize the union.

Once recognized, Tufts Dining Services workers will become members of the union that successfully struck Harvard for 22 days in 2016 and narrowly averted a strike at Northeastern in 2017. In both cases, workers won celebrated agreements that significantly improved job security, income and respect for campus workers.

Hundreds of Tufts students joined workers in a march to the offices of President Anthony Monaco.

"I have been working at Tufts for 29 years, but I still don't feel heard," said Immacula Desroses. "I know how to do my job. I want to be treated like a human being. I decided I couldn't wait any longer."

Friends of the JLC fighting for living wages

"After 14 years at Tufts, this year I got a 19-cent raise," said dining hall worker, Grazia Difabio. Grazia lost her house and now lives with her daughter and son and is often unable to take care of her grandchildren because of her constantly changing schedule. "We work so hard to keep our students happy. I'm thankful that they are looking out for us."

"The bonds between workers and students cannot be broken," said Second Year majoring in Philosophy at Tufts, Kayleigh Milano. "We both want what's best for each other. It's time for Tufts to listen and recognize the union."

We at the New England Jewish Labor Committee are proud to stand with the 43 student groups and over 500 students who have joined a coalition backing the food service worker's union.

We are awaiting a response from the university, but commit to standing by the workers and students as they fight for fair wages and dignity in the workplace. We hope you will join us! For more information, click HERE. Contact our Program Associate at elie.nejlc@gmail.com to get more involved, and stay tuned for updates.

If you have questions, contact:

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